

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 61

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Nivedita "Nita" Ganguly upon her receipt of two prestigious awards.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those educators who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as citizens and professionals of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Nivedita "Nita" Ganguly, who has been recognized as one of only thirty-seven recipients of a White House award presented by the President's Council on Environmental Quality; and

WHEREAS, she was also named as one of a mere twenty nationwide to receive the Siemens Award for Advanced Placement Classes; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ganguly was specially recognized by the Oak Ridge Board of Education for her exceptional accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, she has a master's degree in science education and curriculum and a doctorate in genetics; and

WHEREAS, she taught in the Knox County school system, at the University of California at Irvine, the University of North Carolina, and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville prior to beginning work at Oak Ridge High School about ten years ago; and

WHEREAS, she grew tired of college-level teaching because of the limited amount of interaction with the students: "Interaction with high school students is what's exciting. . . their eyes light up when something interests them"; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her work as a science teacher at Oak Ridge High School, Ms. Ganguly still plans to use the stipend from her President's Council on Environmental Quality award and the honorarium from her Siemens Award for Advanced Placement Classes to attend the meeting of the National Association of Biology Teachers in San Diego, California and the National Science Teachers conference in St. Louis, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Nivedita Ganguly removes the monotony from regular textbook learning in order to implement a large variety of more hands-on projects with her students; and

WHEREAS, she has humbly noted, "It's easy to be creative when you have such good students"; and

WHEREAS, as stated by the Pulitzer Prize winning poet, Mark Van Doren, "The art of teaching is the art of assisting discovery," and Nivedita Ganguly assists her students in discovery through her own ingeniousness every day she teaches; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ganguly epitomizes the spirit and commitment that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Ms. Ganguly for her dedication to the honorable profession of teaching and the education of the students of Oak Ridge, Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Nivedita "Nita" Ganguly for her

meritorious service as an exemplary teacher, and we extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.